

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURTS OF THE
FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
BOONE, BAXTER, MARION AND NEWTON COUNTIES
ALL DIVISIONS**

ORDER

In order to implement the new Administrative Plan which was approved by the Arkansas Supreme Court to become effective January 1, 2009, the following method of new case assignment shall be used by the clerks of the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit as follows:

JUVENILE AND PROBATE DIVISIONS: All new Juvenile and Probate Division case filings are to be assigned to Division 2, Gary Isbell.

CRIMINAL DIVISION: All new Criminal Division case filings are to be assigned one half to Division 3, John Putman and one half to Division 4, Gordon Webb.

CIVIL DIVISION: All new Civil Division case filings are to be assigned as follows:

- .33 to Judge Womack, Division 1
- .33 to Judge Putman, Division 3
- .33 to Judge Webb, Division 4

The following method will be implemented to attain such assignments.

In order to keep assignment of filings in the Civil Division approximately where they should be under the new Administrative Plan approved by the Supreme Court, the Clerks shall keep a separate container of tokens for use in assigning by random the new Civil Division filings. There shall be 99 tokens in

the civil filing container to begin with, 33 of which shall have Judge Womack's name, 33 of which shall have Judge Putman's name and 33 of which shall have Judge Webb's name. The clerks shall draw a token out of the container each time a case is filed and the case shall be assigned according to which judge's token is drawn. Upon filing of cases, the Clerk shall continue to draw out tokens from the container until all the tokens are removed and then shall replace all tokens in the container and start over.

The judges have adopted the rubric that justice is best served with a commitment to "one case, one judge." Therefore, with the drawing of tokens for the re-opening of a case the Clerk of the Court shall draw a token and thereby assign a re-opened case to the judge who last had entered orders in or presided over that cause. The drawing of tokens for other filed cases shall be adjusted accordingly to preserve the numerical division of case assignments.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION: In order to keep the assignment approximately in compliance with the Administrative Plan for new case filings in the Domestic Relations Division, the clerks shall keep a separate container of tokens for use in assigning by random new domestic relations case filings. There shall be 100 tokens in the container, 50 of which shall have Judge Womack's name on them, 25 of which shall have Judge Putman's name on them, and 25 of which shall have Judge Webb's name on them.

When an Office of Child Support Enforcement case is filed one of Judge

Womack's tokens shall be drawn. If because of the number of filings of child support cases which must be assigned to him, the clerk runs out of Judge

Womack's tokens while tokens for other judges are still in the container, Judge Womack shall be credited for all those cases which he has been assigned against subsequent draw and assignment.

The judges have adopted the rubric that justice is best served with a commitment to "one case, one judge." Therefore, with the drawing of tokens for the re-opening of a case the Clerk of the Court shall draw a token and thereby assign a re-opened case to the judge who last had entered orders in or presided over that cause. The drawing of tokens for other filed cases shall be adjusted accordingly to preserve the numerical division of case assignments.

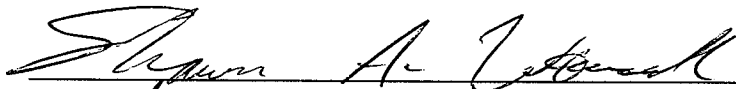
IMPLEMENTATION: Recognizing that litigants in this district deserve prompt hearings and resolutions of emergency petitions and certain critical domestic relations causes the duly assigned judge shall provide a temporary hearing within thirty (30) days or the case shall be transferred to another division for said resolution. This policy does not in any way interfere with a Court's determination of whether an emergency exists or whether the matter may be resolved in some other manner than by hearing.

If at any time this process leads to a substantial variance from the proportion which is supposed to be assigned under the plan, the judges or the

administrative judge may transfer or assign cases to bring the number into approximate compliance with the proportions required by the plan.

AMENDMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN: The Amendment to Administrative Plan filed for record January 28, 2008 pursuant to Supreme Court Administrative Rule 14, is incorporated into and made a part hereof this Administrative Plan.

IT IS SO CONSIDERED, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED this 26th day of May, 2009.


SHAWN WOMACK, CIRCUIT JUDGE, DIVISION 1


GARY ISBELL, CIRCUIT JUDGE, DIVISION 2


JOHN PUTMAN, CIRCUIT JUDGE, DIVISION 3


GORDON WEBB, CIRCUIT JUDGE, DIVISION 4